EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 834 335-597 US

PTO/SB/29 (10-00)

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**CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA)
REQUEST TRANSMITTAL**

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing

CHECK BOX, if applicable

☒ DUPLICATE

(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d))

#13
8. (with)
8-1-01

Address to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box CPA
Washington, DC 20231Attorney Docket No.
of Prior Application

09/181,658

First Named Inventor

Savage et al.

Examiner Name

Kanof, P.

Group / Art Unit

2164

Express Mail Label No.

EL 834 335 597 US

This is a request for a ☒ continuation or ☐ divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d),(continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09/181,658filed on October 29, 1998, entitled A Method and System of Combined Billing of Multiple Accounts on a Single Statement.**NOTES**

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. Effective May 29, 2000, a CPA may only be filed in a utility or a plant application if the prior nonprovisional application was filed before May 29, 2000. A CPA may be filed in a design application regardless of the filing date of the prior application. See "Request for Continued Examination Practice changes to and Provisional Application Practice," Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office (Apr. 11, 2000).

C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the other application or applications in the file jacket.

35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 CFR 1.78(a).

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

1. ☐ Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application
2. ☒ A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
3. ☐ This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53 (d)(4).
 - a. ☐ **DELETE** the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

 - b. ☐ The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. ☐ A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.
5. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - a. ☐ PTO-1449
 - b. ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

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01 FC:131
02 FC:103
03 FC:102710.00 OP
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160.00 OP

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JUL 31 2001

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[Page 1 of 2]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box CPA, Washington, DC 20231.

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c) or (j))	57-55	2	x \$18=	\$ 36.00
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS 37 CFR 1.16(b) or (i))	6-4** =	2	x \$80=	160.00
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 CFR 1.16(d))			x \$ ____ =	
				BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16)	710.00
	Total of above Calculations =				
	Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 CFR 1.27).				
	* <i>Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent.</i>				
	** <i>Reissue independent claims over original patent.</i>				
	TOTAL =				906.00

6. Small entity status not claimed.
7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16 - 1435 :
- a. ☒ Fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.
- b. ☒ Fees required under 37 CFR 1.17.
- c. ☒ Fees required under 37 CFR 1.18.
- A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed for that purpose.
8. ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 1016.00 is enclosed.
9. ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
10. ☐ Applicant requests suspension of action under 37 CFR 1.103(b) (fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) enclosed).
11. ☐ New Attorney Docket Number, if desired
[Prior application Attorney Docket Number will carryover to this CPA unless a new Attorney Docket Number has been provided herein.]
12. a. ☐ Receipt For Facsimile Transmitted CPA (PTO/SB/29A)
- b. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (Should be specifically itemized, See MPEP 503)
13. ☒ Other: Request for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a)

NOTE: *The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below.*

12. NEW CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

or ☐ New correspondence address below

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Country

Telephone


Fax

13. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)

John M. Harrington for George T. Marcou

Signature



Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

25,592

Date

7/26/01



CITI0113-US

Appl. No. 09/181,638
Express Mail Cert. No. EL 834 335 597 US
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Savage et al.

Group Art Unit: 2164

Application No.: 09/181, 658

Examiner: Kanof, P.

Filed: October 29, 1998

For: **A METHOD AND SYSTEM OF COMBINED BILLING
OF MULTIPLE ACCOUNTS ON A SINGLE
STATEMENT**

Pre
14/B
P. C. Kanof
8-1-01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box CPA
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows prior to calculation of the filing fees:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite claims 1, 50 and 54-55 as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method of combined billing for at least one customer on a plurality of customer accounts, comprising:
- receiving account data for the plurality of customer accounts electronically from time-to-time by a service provider from each of a plurality of billers;
 - acquiring ownership of receivables represented by the account data by the service provider under contractual arrangements with the plurality of billers upon receipt of the account data;
 - automatically calculating account charges for the plurality of customer accounts from the account data;
 - aggregating the account charges for at least one customer on the plurality of customer accounts;
 - automatically formatting a combined bill for the customer from the aggregated account charges; and

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